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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP

INTELLIGENCE REPORT

REFERENCE CENTER

COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

DATE: 6/1/47

SUBJECT Soviet Instructions to the Leipzig Press
25X1A

INFO

DISC

PAGES

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1. In mid November 1947 a meeting of SED editors of the Leipzig press and the Central German Radio, Leipzig station, was held at the headquarters of the Society for the Study of Soviet Culture. New instructions were given the editors, and the news policy was set for the immediate future. The principal speaker was Ernst Lohagen, SED chairman of Kreis Leipzig, who had that day returned from Berlin and conferred with Landkreis officials.

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Comment: Lohagen has spoken at other meetings where he gave reports from the SED Central Secretariat.)

2. The editors were instructed first to open a propaganda campaign against Dr. Kurt Schumacher, emphasizing the differences between the Marxist ideology of the western SPD and his rejection of Marxist ideas. It was to be made particularly clear that SED was not fighting SPD in the western zones but only Schumacher. Another point to be stressed was his about face from England to the United States. Paul Lobe's part in the Friedensburg affair was to be played up in the Russian zone press as a sign of corruption within SPD, with the comment that previous experience made it evident that Lobe could not be trusted.
3. It was announced that, at a former SS camp at Hof, Bavaria, the Americans were training terrorists, mostly SS members, to operate in the Russian Zone. The bomb plot on the Tauze barter center at the Lindenau Market in Leipzig was ascribed to this group.
4. In reference to the London Conference, a popular interrogation was scheduled to be made in Leipzig by the press. The three questions to be directed to the people were:
 - a. Are you for the unity of Germany?
 - b. Is Germany to be heard at the London Conference?
 - c. Are you in favor of the implementation of the Potsdam Pact?

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NO CHANGE in Class. ☐

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